

1 **Remarks/Arguments**

2 In response to the objection to the manner of use of the mark NIKE on page 6,
3 applicant hereby submits a replacement page 6 of the application, including the ® noting that
4 the mark NIKE is a registered trademark.

5 Claim 1 has been amended to more particularly highlight the novel aspect of the
6 present invention. The tension strap allows the user to maintain tension with his legs, thereby
7 freeing both hands for stunts such as helicopters and akimbo stunts (see page 1, lines 23-26;
8 page 3, lines 10-12; page 4, lines 12-14).

9 In contrast, the Younger reference requires the user to constantly apply tension to the
10 belt with at least one hand (see col. 3 of Younger, lines 29-37). Furthermore, the tether 31
11 disclosed by Younger is described at col. 5, lines 36-47. The tether is attached to the rider's
12 belt with a VELCRO® fastener. Clearly, the VELCRO® fastener is not intended, itself, to
13 maintain tension between the handle 18 and the skateboarder. Rather, that tension is
14 maintained between the handle 18 and the user's arm.

15 For the above stated reasons, the undersigned submits that claim 1 as amended is
16 clearly patentable over any of the references of record. The remaining claims are allowable
17 based upon the patentable subject matter of claim 1. Favorable action is requested.

18 Please take note of our attached change of correspondence address.

19
20 Respectfully submitted,

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Amendment, Commissioner for Patents,
P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450,
on October 31, 2005
Reg. No. 24,982 of Eckhoff & Hoppe**

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Bruce H. Johnsonbaugh
Signature
10/31/2005